## Compelling Questions Science Goals:

|                      | IAA Study (includes human exploration)                                    | SSES White Paper Draft  | SSE 2003 (w/o Mars)  | <u>Decadal Report</u>   |
|----------------------|---|---|--|---|
| How did we get here? | Determine how the universe of stars and planets began and evolved         | Learn how the sun's family of planets and minor bodies originated       | Learn how the sun's family of planets and minor bodies originated                | Learn how the sun's retinue of planets and minor bodies originated and evolved  |
|                      | Determine the origin and evolution of Earth and its biosphere             | Determine how the solar system evolved to its current diverse state     | Determine how the solar system evolved to its current diverse state              | Discover how the simple, basic laws of physics and chemistry can lead to the diverse phenomena observed in complex systems  |
|                      |   |   | Determine the characteristics of the solar system that led to the origin of life | Understand how physical and chemical processes determine the main characteristics of solar system bodies and their environments, thereby illuminating the workings of Earth   |
| Where are we going?  | Determine the nature of the space environment and cosmic hazards to Earth | Explore the space environment to discover hazards and resouces for life | Explore the space environment to discover hazards to Earth                       | Explore the terrestrial space environment to discover what potential hazards to Earth may exist   |
|                      | Determine the potential for permanent human presence in space             |   |  |   |
| Are we alone?        | Determine if there is or ever has been other life in the solar system     | Understand the origin and ubiquity of life                              | Understand how life begins and evolves   | Determine if environments capable of sustaining life exist or have ever existed beyond Earth, what parameters constrain its occurrence, how life developed in the solar system, whether life exists or may have existed beyond Earth, and in what ways life mod |
|                      | Determine if there are life-bearing planets around other stars            |   |  |   |

| <b>Compelling Questions</b> | <u>Presidents Policy</u>  | <b>Science Goals</b>  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
|                             | Conduct robotic exploration across the solar system for scientific purposes and to support human exploration. In particular |   |
| How did we get here?        | to understand the history of the solar system,  | Learn how the sun's family of planets and minor bodies originated   |
|                             |   | Determine how the solar system evolved to its current diverse state including the origin and evolution of the Earth's biosphere |
| Where are we going?         | to coarch for recourses   | Evalore the cases environment to discover   |
| where are we going?         | to search for resources,  | Explore the space environment to discover potential hazards to Earth  |
|                             |   | Explore for resources available in space to enable a permanent human presence   |
| Are we alone?               | to search for evidence of life,"  | Determine if there is or ever has been other life in the solar system   |